

By: Nichols

S.B. No. 349

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to standards for power lines.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 181.041, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Subdivisions (3) and (4) to read as follows:

(3) "Distribution line" means a power line operated below 60,000 volts when measured phase to phase.

(4) "Transmission line" means a power line operated at 60,000 volts or more when measured phase to phase.

SECTION 2. Section 181.045(a), Utilities Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A municipal electric utility shall construct, operate, and maintain its transmission lines and distribution lines [~~for the transmission and distribution of electric energy~~] along highways and at other places in accordance with the national electrical safety code. With regard to clearances, an electric utility that is not a municipal electric utility shall construct, operate, and maintain its transmission lines and distribution lines [~~for the transmission and distribution of electric energy~~] along highways and at other places in accordance with the national electrical safety code.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.